AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing prostate cancer, the method comprising the step of detecting ~~the presence or absence of an~~ increased levels ~~expression product~~ of a human endogenous MMTV-like subgroup 2 (HML-2) retrovirus encoded expression product in a patient prostate or blood sample relative to a negative control sample.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the expression product is an RNA or a polypeptide.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient sample is a prostate sample ~~or a blood sample~~.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the expression product is an RNA comprising SEQ ID NO:155.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the expression product is an RNA comprising SEQ ID NO:5.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein SEQ ID NO:155 is at the 5′ end of the RNA.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein the RNA comprises SEQ ID NO:155 and SEQ ID NO:5.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the expression product is a polypeptide and wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of gag, prt, pol, env, cORF, and tat.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the polypeptide is detected using an antibody.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of enriching RNA in the patient sample.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the expression product is detected using PCR, SDA, SSSR, LCR, TMA or NASBA.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the ~~PCT~~ PCR is RT-PCR.

16-38. (Canceled)